

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Background

It is no doubt that people choose a place to live based on their choices; whether it is their financial needs, distance from their closest people, the facilities available, and even social classes. Despite the fact that those choices are made voluntarily or forced by particular factors, those reasons still work up until now. It does not only apply in choosing a place to live, it applies in almost anything from the lifestyle, religion, job, and many more. This fact happens and can be found anywhere, from small towns to big cities. The results cannot be prevented. One of them is the unbalanced working society which finally affects all major aspects of people's lives.

Globalization and increasing of dynamism in the world community as a key trigger that caused different class are not inevitable. This happens almost to the entire world community. In this era, the economy and money is the most powerful tool to get power. One fact that is apparent is increasingly clear boundaries between a rich and poor, which was then called social class. The fact that only a few are able to pass the limits reflect the class struggle that is difficult, in fact almost no sense. But of course this struggle will always exist while there are social class.

The issue of social class became the main topic of discussion of this study, taking the story of a the main character of the lowest grade in the

novel 'The Hunger Games' *Mockingjay* by Suzanne Collins, an American writer who lives in Newtown, Connecticut. 'The Hunger Games' *Mockingjay* is the third novel of The Hunger Games trilogy written by Suzanne Collins. As a sequel to the previous novel, this novel tell the story of Katniss Everdeen forward in a futuristic fictional country, Panem.

The issue of social class in this novel there is exploitation of upper class namely Capitol to the lower class namely Districts, so that justice never be obtained by the people of ditricts. Situation in districts was worse off then appears a movement a rebellion from districts to fight for their social status. This is which triggered the social struggle in the novel "The Hunger Games" *Mockingjay*.

Mockingjay is a 2010 a science fiction of novel written by an American author, Suzanne Collins. This novel is the third and final series of The Hunger Games trilogy, after *The Hunger Games* (2008) and *Catching Fire* (2009). This novel was released on August 24, 2010 in the United States by Scholastic publisher. While in Indonesia, the novel published by Gramedia Pustaka Utama in January 2012.

This paper will analyze novel *The Hunger Games* as it pictures this matter very well. *The Hunger Games* can be analyzed from a Marxist perspective because the marginalized class has to find a way to outsmart the government in order to get out from under the government's control. The storyline shows clearly how the riches and the poor live together with a sharp cut-out; discrimination and segregation. To make it focus, the analysis

will highlight some characters in this novel using the theory of Marxism by Terry Eagleton.

The capitalism which portrayed existence contradictions and the class struggle between the owners of capital (bourgeoisie) and workers (proletariat) by Capitol who want the entire district to follow the rules made by the Capitol itself with a view to having the power completely. As illustrated clearly in the novel *The Hunger Games* that the bourgeoisie or the Capitol residents live in prosperity and freedom from oppression and the threat of starvation. They used to occupy themselves with fashion, partying, revelers, and enjoyed mass entertainment events such as *The Hunger Games*. Most residents of Capitol depicted behaving as if ignoring, or not at all concerned about the poverty and despair. Capitol extremely rich and technologically advanced, and residents enjoy a very high standard of living.

Capitalism happens in this novel makes the proletariat carry on a struggle for the rights that they should have, existed these classes on the foundation of the economy. In Dahrendorf, (1959:11), as confirmed by Karl Marx that social relations in capitalist society is based on stage property ownership among that community. The purpose of the principle of the emphasis in understanding the variety of capitalist spending is a form of property.

Previous studies has helped in this research are:

1. The research by Helmi Permana entitled “Social Class Conflict in William Faulkner’s *Absalom-Absalom!*”;

2. The research by Reza Pramono entitled “Representasi Kapitalisme dalam Film *The Hunger Games* (Analisis Semiotika John Fiske Mengenai Kapitalisme dalam Film *The Hunger Games*)”,
3. The research by Tia Apriliyani entitled “Analisa Stratifikasi Sosial dalam Film *Hunger Games*”; and
4. The research by Elis Purwanti entitled “Analysis tentang Simbol dalam Novel *Old Man and The Sea* Karangan Ernest Hemingway”.

In a capitalist economic system, the status of an individual is determined by the amount of property owned. Still according to Marx in the Communist Manifesto works, the history of mankind is the history of class struggle, class "high" will always be oppressive class "low" in various ways, and it will always be like that. So, to free all forms of oppression that must be done through a class struggle. Based on the explanations above, then this research entitle “Social Struggle in *The Hunger Games Mockingjay* by Suzanne Collins”.

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Statement of Problem

Based on the background of problem that has been explained above. The discourse of this study is about novel entitle “*The Hunger Games’ Mockingjay* by Suzanne Collins. In this thesis, the researcher wants to discuss about a study of Marxist literary criticism used for understanding the social struggle which is caused by Capitol rule and reign arbitrary in that

city, and create regulations that are very detrimental to the lower class, so all district in Panem rebellion to fight for justice.

Based on the statement of problems above, the researcher makes this thesis specified into two stated questions such as follow:

1. How is the use of fiction elements portray of the Marxist issues in the novel 'The Hunger Games' *Mockingjay*?
2. How is Marxism applied in terms of social struggle in the novel 'The Hunger Games' *Mockingjay*?
3. How is social struggle in 'The Hunger Games' *Mockingjay*?

Research Objective

The research objective of this research are:

1. To describe use of fiction elements portray of the Marxist issues in the novel 'The Hunger Games' *Mockingjay*.
2. To find out how the Marxism is applied in terms of social struggle in the novel 'The Hunger Games' *Mockingjay*.
3. To find out how is social struggle in 'The Hunger Games' *Mockingjay*.

Significance of the Research

This research is expected to provide the following significance:

Theoretical Significance

1. Increase knowledge for the readers about the social struggle in a literary work.

2. The result the study as a guide for other studies in conducting research on novel 'The Hunger Games' *Mockingjay* by Suzanne Collins about the social struggle.

Practical Significance

For readers of this research can provide additional knowledge and enrich knowledge about the social struggle in a novel.

Then the functions of the study are:

1. To help the readers expand their ideas on Marxism criticism theory.
2. To inspire the readers to apply other series of topics on Marxism in the future.

Definition of Key Terms

Contains a brief description of the principal terms (key) used in this study, primarily related to the title of the study. This sub useful to overcome the confusion-confusion that sometimes arises in terms of research, particularly in relation to the terms of theoretical and often interchangeable (interchangeable) with terms that are relatively equal in area/other disciplines.

1. Social Class

Social class is a group of people who are in the same situation in relation to their control of the means of production. Social class in this study were social classes distinguished by economic status.

2. Social Struggle

Social struggle is class consciousness that had an impact on their willingness to do the class struggle that is carried through the revolution.

3. The Hunger Games

The Hunger Games is the arena of gladiator battles between districts in which participants consisted of 24 adolescents (*tributes*) aged between 12-18 years with the terms of the men and one woman from each district are selected by lottery in each district.

4. Class Revolution

Class revolution is a change of production relations between exploiter and exploited.

5. Panem

Panem is a country which was once North America ever was, that after a major disaster on earth to be the only survivor region.

6. Capitol

Capitol is the name of the state capital of Panem in the story The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins.